

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-01 SS-14 SP-02 SNM-02 EUR-08
NEA-07 EA-06 ARA-10 AF-04 INR-05 L-01 /067 W
-----023925 291737Z /41

R 291623Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7734
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 04701

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: SNAR, UN
SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
BOARD (MARCH 20-23, 1978)

REF: 77 GENEVA 4562

SUMMARY: SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS MEETING FROM
US POINT OF VIEW WERE THE REELECTION OF PROF. PAUL
REUTER (FRANCE) AS BOARD PRESIDENT AND THE BLOCKING OF
ATTEMPT TO RECONSIDER EXTENSION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT
FOR BOARD SECRETARY STEP CZYNSKI (POLAND) END SUMMARY.

1. BOARD CONCLUDED SHORT BUT TENSE MEETING MARCH 23.
ALTHOUGH MEETING WAS SCHEDULED TO FOCUS ON ILLICIT
TRAFFIC PROBLEM, MAJOR ATTENTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN FACT
CENTERED UPON PERSONNEL QUESTIONS. INCUMBENT SECRETARY
SPEARHEADED BATTLES (WITH THE SUPPORT OF BOARD MEMBERS
FROM USSR, POLAND AND FRG) TO PREVENT PROF. REUTER'S
REELECTION AND TO HAVE HIS OWN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT
EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR BEYOND HIS MANDATORY RETIREMENT
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DATE IN AUGUST 1978.

2. DR. GARCES-GIRALDO (COLOMBIA) LAUNCHED AN EFFORT,
PERCEIVED GENERALLY AS CONTRARY TO REUTER'S INTERESTS,
TO POSTPONE ELECTION UNTIL MAY. EFFORT FAILED FOR LACK
OF SUPPORT.

3. PROF. REUTER WON THE SECRET BALLOT ELECTION ON MARCH 20 BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE 12 MEMBERS PRESENT. (PROF. FUENTE MUNIZ OF MEXICO DID NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING.) (TALLY: REUTER-8, CHRUSCIEL-1, SALEH-3.) PROF. SALEH (IRAN) WAS ELECTED FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (TALLY: SALEH-11, EHRHARDT-1), WHILE PROF. KAYMAKALAN (TURKEY) WAS ELECTED SECOND VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE (TALLY: KAYMAKALAN-8, CHRUSCIEL-1, BARKOV-3). PROF. BARKOV (USSR) WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE. PROF. BOVET (ITALY), DR. CHRUSCIEL (POLAND) MISS GOUGH (US), DR. KCHOUK (TUNISIA), AND DR. SADEK (EGYPT) WERE ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE.

4. DURING MORNING MEETING MARCH 23, BOARD SECRETARY UNEXPECTEDLY REQUESTED BOARD ROOM TO BE CLEARED OF ALL OTHER STAFF MEMBERS AND THEN READ A PREPARED STATEMENT URGING BOARD RECONSIDER ITS DECISION OF LAST MAY AND CALLING FOR HIS EXTENSION FOR ONE YEAR. PRESIDENT REUTER THEN ASKED THE SECRETARY TO LEAVE THE ROOM AND ASKED THE BOARD WHETHER IT WISHED TO HAVE A MEETING TO RECONSIDER THE SUBJECT. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD VOTE AGAINST. PROF. CHRUSCIEL, SUPPORTED BY BARKOV AND EHRHARDT, MADE A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THE EFFECT REQUESTED BY STEP CZYNSKI. REUTER, HOWEVER, PUT TO THE FLOOR THE QUESTION OF WHETHER A MEETING SHOULD BE HELD

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TO DISCUSS THE TOPIC FURTHER. THE RESULTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. AGAINST MEETING ON SUBJECT: BOVET, GOUGH, KAYMAKALAN, KCHOUK, REUTER, SADEK.

B. FOR MEETING: BARKOV, CHRUSCIEL, EHRHARDT, SALEH, SHIMOMURA.

C. ABSTAIN: GARCES-GIRALDO.

THE BOARD'S DECISION AGAINST THE MEETING CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION FOR THIS SESSION.

5. COMMENT: IN JUNE 1977, MISSION REPORTED REFTTEL THAT IT WAS "CONCERNED THAT DELAY OF FINAL SYG DECISION... MAY PROLONG A PERIOD OF INDECISION AND UNNECESSARY FRICTION WHICH HAS ALREADY PROVED DELETERIOUS TO WORK OF BOARD SECRETARIAT. WE APPREHEND THAT UNTIL DECISION IS FINAL, MR. STEP CZYNSKI WILL PREOCCUPY HIMSELF WITH ATTEMPTS TO OVERTURN OR OVERRIDE BOARD DECISION, AND THAT THIS PREOCCUPATION WILL TEND TO DEFLECT FOCUS OF SECRETARIAT FROM SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF INCB."

6. ALTHOUGH ALMOST A YEAR HAS PASSED, SYG HAS NEVER-THELESS NOT YET MADE DECISION, ON THE ADVICE OF ASYG

DAVIDSON, WHO IS CONCERNED THAT BOARD MIGHT CHANGE ITS MIND AFTER A DECISION IS MADE, THEREBY EMBARRASSING THE SYG. MISSION BELIEVES, TO THE CONTRARY, THAT BOARD WOULD BE ESTOPPED PRACTICALLY AND PROBABLY LEGALLY FROM MAKING ANY CONTRADICTORY RECOMMENDATION ON TOPIC AFTER SYG HAS ACTED ON EXTANT RECOMMENDATION. MISSION BELIEVES DAVIDSON'S NOVEL APPROACH HAS KEPT THIS SORRY SAGA CHURNING AWAY POINTLESSLY AND TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE BOARD'S SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES.

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-01 SS-14 SP-02 SNM-02 EUR-08
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-----024074 291736Z /41

R 291623Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7735
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7. MISSION NOTES THAT NEXT INCB MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE QUESTION OF THE SECRETARY'S MANDATORY RETIREMENT, (EFFECTIVE IN AUGUST) WOULD AS ROUTINE MATTER BE CONCLUSIVELY SETTLED BEFORE THE MAY MEETING, IN ORDER TO AVOID HAVING THIS MEETING WASTED AS WELL.

8. AMERICAN INCB MEMBER PLANS VISIT WASHINGTON IN MID-APRIL AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS SITUATION.
END COMMENT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, DRUG CONTROL, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04701
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780136-0581
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780315/aaaaalzs.tel
Line Count: 162
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8c1efebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS, STADIS
Reference: 77 GENEVA 4562
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3173543
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (MARCH 20-23, 1978)
TAGS: SNAR, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c1efebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014